RAILWAY JOTTINGS.—"I know," says Mr. Glyn, the highest authority in one of the most important railway lines in existence, "that many Railway Companies have Bills before Parliament, which are based on the *supposition that the mere raising of fares will lead to a restoration of prosperity*. Of course, if any raising of fares should take place, we shall participate in it; but upon the facts and the figures which are before us, excepting those which have reference to the express trains, I am prepared to say, that if we had in our own hands at this moment the power of increasing the fares,—the facts and the figures showing a falling off in the receipts for first and second-class passengers, have, I say, led me to the conclusion that we should by that means *only diminish the number of travellers* in those classes." It is gratifying to find one's own confident predictions now corroborated and confirmed by such an authority. We hope the eyes of others of influence in the railway kingdom will now be also opened to the doubtfulness of such a way of mending matters.——"The stations on the Lancashire and Yorkshire, which are very numerous, entail an expense on the Company," says *Herapath*, "equal to 1d. per passenger. The expense on the London and North-Western is also very great, and hence the observation of Mr. Glyn, that a small booking fee might save the advance of fares. If this be done, it should be in proportion to the distance, or it would fall very unequally on long and short passengers."——Gigantic railway bridges are about to be thrown over the Rhine at Dusseldorf and Cologne; and foreigners, it is said, will be invited to send in contracts for them.

GAS IN GUERNSEY.—As most of our readers may remember, gas was till lately charged in Guernsey at the really quite unsaleable price of 12*s.* per 1,000 cubic feet, and the *consequence* was, that, in a locality possessing a town parish population of 16,000 to 17,000, gas was so expensive a luxury that not even the streets were lighted, and that the shopkeepers even, with pipes and apparatus for it up in their premises, could only afford to light their shops with it on a Saturday evening! A spirited gas manufacturer, one would have thought, might have had very little difficulty in finding out the real *reason* why his sale, and hence his profit, was so limited. In the present instance, however, not even the constant grumbling of the few consumers, and the many would-be consumers, who desired to purchase and to use it largely,—not even the remonstrances of the *Guernsey Sun* and other authorities, seconded by our own humble endeavour, could fully open the eyes of the virtual darkener of the streets, and shops, and houses of St. Peter's Port to his own best interests: true, with a glimmering of returning light he at length saw the necessity of admitting himself to be in the wrong, by granting a stingy instalment of reduction; but the patience of those who are waiting for light in his little dominion is exhausted, and at length the oft-threatened blow is struck. A new company is formed, and "opposition will be useless on his part, as almost all the gas consumers are shareholders." It is even "now a chance if he do not lose the two islands Guernsey and Jersey both." It is really a thousand pities that one who is seeking, we presume, his own profit in manufacture, should be so blind to his own best interest, and so unwilling to be led, even blindly, into that interest. If not *trop tard*, as his late supporters may now regard it, we would earnestly advise a liberal compromise, after carefully studying the instructive lesson to be learnt in the Gas Returns, by manufacturers themselves, to Parliament.

FREEMASONS OF THE CHURCH.—At a meeting of this association, held on the 12th inst., some strong resolutions were passed expressive of concurrence with the intended Exhibition of 1851. Sir Walter James, Bart., afterwards read a paper on "The Use and Abuse of the Imaginative Faculty, with reference to the Fine Arts." Some interesting specimens of ancient art were exhibited.

THE EXHIBITION OF MEDIÆVAL ART, about to be opened at the Society of Arts, is of the most interesting kind, and cannot fail to exercise a good influence on the minds of those skilled artizans who will visit it.

THE PANOPTICON OF SCIENCE AND ART.—Some of our readers have asked for information concerning this proposed institution. The principal object the parties who originated the Panopticon have in view, is said to be, to extract intellectual profit from pleasure, by bringing forward on a grand scale, before the public, the principal discoveries in the arts, and showing, practically, the various processes of science now, to the million, a mystery. They wish, too, to make these things serve for other purposes than a mere show. They would have them put forward in a way such as would attract by the pleasure that the mere exhibition would give, apart from the intellectual good that might result; but so to arrange these exhibitions that instruction might succeed to vague curiosity,—that those who come, perhaps, but to while away an hour, might be led to think that the study of nature's wonders might be a more instructive, as well as better occupation, than the accustomed pursuit of idle pleasures. They propose, also, to offer to those who wish to make science a recreation, but are prevented by the expense, a place where the best instruction and the greatest command of apparatus can be secured at a moderate price. To carry out these main objects, and many others secondary, to which the prospectus alludes, it will be necessary to have a building, apparatus, &c., on a great scale, and with such means of putting forward the various experiments and exhibitions as will let the institution vie in its attractive powers with the great places of amusement now open,—to let the building be of that magnitude and grandeur which shall remove all idea of the show-room and bazaar, whilst every part of its construction and details shall show the result of some modern invention or improvement. Whether or not this will be done is yet to be seen. Messrs. Finden and Lewis are the architects employed, and we understand their plans are nearly ready.

IRON ROOF, LIME-STREET STATION.—The iron roof of the Lime-street Railway Station, Liverpool, mentioned by us some time ago, was described by Mr. Turner at the Institution of Civil Engineers, on the 19th ultimo. The area covered is 374 feet in length, and 153 feet 6 inches in breadth, which is roofed over in one span. The roof consists of a series of segmental girders or principals, fixed at intervals of 21 feet 6 inches from centre to centre; these are supported, on one side, upon the walls of the offices, as far as they extend, and on the other upon cast-iron columns. From the end of the offices to the viaduct over Hotham-street, a distance of 60 feet 4 inches, the principals are carried upon a "box beam" of wrought-iron. The principals are trussed vertically, by a series of radiating struts, which are made to act upon them by straining the tie-rods and diagonal braces; they are trussed laterally by purlins and by diagonal bracing, extending from the bottom of the radiating struts to the top of the corresponding strut in the adjoining girder; these braces are connected with linking-plates by a bar of the same scantling, and also with the purlins already referred to. The girders are thus firmly knitted together, and a rigid framework formed, upon which the covering of galvanized corrugated iron and glass is laid. We may find an opportunity to describe this roof more in detail.

OXFORD ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY MEETING, MARCH 6.—Mr. John Buckler was elected an honorary member of the society. Mr. Lechmere, B.A., corresponding secretary, read the report, which stated that the plans of Eye Church, Hertfordshire, had been sent for the inspection of the Committee, who had made observations, and given directions to the secretary to communicate them to the rector. After alluding to other matters, the report concluded with an exhortation to the members of the society to use their best endeavours in furthering the principles of church architecture and church arrangement, and to devote a portion of their time during the ensuing vacation to a study so important, more especially to those about to enter holy orders. The Rev. T. Chamberlain, M.A., then read a paper upon "The Structure and Arrangement of Chancels best suited for the services of the Church."

MR. J. P. DEERING, R.A., better known in his architectural capacity as John Peter Gandy, died on the 2nd inst. We will take an opportunity to furnish some particulars of his life.

THE PRINTING-PRESSES OF THE "TIMES" EXCELLED.—A new machine, it is said, has been exhibited at Paris, that promises to throw even the *Times'* presses into shade. It consists, as described, of a series of lateral cylinders, in little more than half the space of the machine with which the *Patrie* is printed, costs less than half, and is free from its cords and tapes. Each machine requires only three men. The printing is from stereotype, and one machine throws off 15,000 copies an hour. Each cylinder carries a continuous sheet equal to 2,000 copies of a journal, and each copy is cut off by the machine and folded. The stereotyping is a work of fifteen minutes! A few sheets of tissue paper are placed together, and pressed on the face of the types: this is the mould: the metal is poured on it, and the stereotypes are ready. The total cost of one machine is 25,000 francs.

ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM.—The following tenders have been received for reseating St. Philip's Church, Birmingham. The quantities were furnished by the architect, Mr. C. W. Orford:—

Branson and Co.	£964
Smith	625
Kendrick	591
Briggs (accepted)	530

The whole of the seating is to be of oak, with standard ends and low doors,—the old pulpit and desk are to be abandoned, and new ones, each side of the aisle, substituted. It is believed that these alterations in the interior will end in the complete restoration of this church, on its exterior likewise.

WORKSOP.—NEW SURVEY AND VALUATION.—The guardians have appointed two surveyors to make the required new survey and valuation of the town and parish of Worksop, viz., Mr. Wilmot, late steward to the Duke of Newcastle, as the valuer, and Mr. Robert Watkins as surveyor. Mr. Wilmot's tender was 150*l.*, and Mr. Watkins' 125*l.* The Board had received thirty-seven tenders, varying in amount from 70*l.* to 1,100*l.*

ARCHITECTURAL BEAUTY.—Of what avail is it that the architect studies to produce objects for the admiration of all lovers of the noble and beautiful in architecture, if the fruits of his labours are to be defaced and spoiled by the negligence or want of taste of those to whose care his works are ultimately confided? I am led to put this query by observing to-day, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, another instance of what I have frequently seen with regret, viz., volumes of dense smoke, highly charged with carbonaceous matter, issuing from huge, ugly stove pipes that may be seen projecting either through the roof or out of the windows of many really very fine specimens of the architectonic genius of our countrymen; blackening and defacing them by the consequent deposits of soot. Really in this age of invention, when improved smoke-consuming stoves of every possible variety of form are almost daily ushered into existence, it is an almost unpardonable offence against architectural propriety, that a stove pipe is anywhere to be found rearing its sooty head amidst the rich embellishments of a fine old pile of building. That stoves are indispensable I am not prepared to deny; but why not use those that consume coke, charcoal, or gas, the vapour from which is invisible? Their flue would neither be unsightly when in use, nor would they scatter their grimy and indelible traces around them. J. T.

BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS,
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Edited by GEO. GODWIN, F.R.S.,
Fellow of the Institute of Architects; Corresponding Member of several Societies.

Part VI. of this work, price 2*s.* 6*d.*, is now ready, containing Views of the Great Hall at the Euston Station of the London and North-Western Railway; the General Meeting-room at the same; the Mansion of H. T. Hope, Esq., M.P., Piccadilly; St. Barnabas's College, Queen-street, Pimlico; Romsey Abbey Church; the London Coal Exchange, Lower Thames-street; the House of Francis I., Champs Elysées, Paris; the Hotel Lacarriere, Paris; Font in the Madeleine, Paris: with descriptive Letter-press, and Details.

Part VII. will be published May 1, and Part VIII. will complete the work. To prevent disappointment, the names of parties intending to take the work when completed should be sent forthwith.

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